



# *Milwaukee County*

Supervisor John F. Weishan, Jr., 16<sup>th</sup> District

For Immediate Release September 29, 2011  
Contact: Harold Mester, Public Information Manager  
414/278-4051 or harold.mester@milwcnty.com

## **COUNTY BOARD APPROVES SUPERVISOR WEISHAN'S CALL FOR REFERENDUM ON MMSD SEWER PROJECT IN FRANKLIN**

**Milwaukee, WI** –Milwaukee County Supervisor John F. Weishan, Jr., released the following statement after the County Board approved a resolution he authored calling for an advisory referendum on the plan by the Milwaukee Metropolitan Sewerage District (MMSD) to spend approximately \$41.1 million of public funds to expand a sanitary sewer in Franklin:

“I’m pleased that the full County Board supports holding this referendum. I have heard from a number of residents in Franklin who don’t want this project to proceed. It’s important to hear from the people before proceeding with what I believe is a gross waste of taxpayer dollars. This is the last remaining farmland in Milwaukee County. Some of these properties have belonged to the same families since before Wisconsin became a State.

“It’s beyond me why MMSD wants to spend \$41 million to build a sewer in a cornfield in Franklin while we have properties in the existing MMSD service area that are routinely flooded. If MMSD is looking to spend this \$41 million, it should instead be invested in neighborhoods that truly need help. Many of these properties have been flooded, and a few are even at risk of falling into the Kinnickinnic River without intervention.

“I want to hear from the people on this. The speculation that Franklin is on the verge of a development boom – in this economy – is way overblown. We need to instead invest in protecting our existing MMSD communities from flooding. After all, these are the property owners who have already paid billions of dollars into the MMSD system over the years. They need a return on their investment.”

###